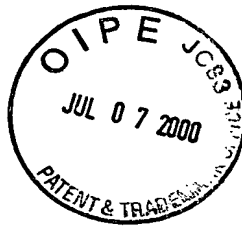


27 June 2000

OIPE Unit 6
U.S Department Of Commerce
Patent And Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231



Re: Application number 09/531,769

Dear Sir / Madam

Thank you for your correspondence dated 05/25/2000 regarding the above application. I assume that yours is the correct department that I should be responding to, if not, I would very much appreciate it if you could forward it on to the correct department for me.

As you can probably tell I am endeavouring to tackle the patenting process without the assistance of a Patent Attorney, so your patients and any assistance your department can give would also be greatly appreciated.

When I originally decided to apply for a patent on the "Belt Hook" in Australia, I was advised by our department people that I had 12 months from the date of first exposure in the public domain. I was told that it would appear in a government publication when the registration was notarised and that would be the start date. When I was advised by the department that the application had been approved and a registration date was provided I then made preparations to pursue overseas patents. In the course of this activity I found out that our department gazettes patents at the point of application and not registration so a great deal of valuable time was lost.

With very little time left to make my application in the US I telephoned the USPTO to get as much information as possible. The people I spoke with were very helpful and a complete set of application forms and instruction booklets were sent to me straight away. After studying the booklets and making certain that I had all the required information I again phoned the USPTO and spoke to a person about my application. He was very patient and went through each section of the forms with me to make certain that I had got it right. He also advised me to get a post card and itemise each page of the documentation that I was sending so that a "receipt of documents" could be sent to me. The gentleman that helped me said that my application information sounded fine the way I had it and that the USPTO was more interested in the document content than the format. I then sent all of the documentation by courier on the 13th of March 2000 to make certain that you received it on or before the 25th of March 2000 which was the last day of the 12 months deadline. I received the return receipt date stamped by the USPTO on the 22nd of May 2000. Things were looking pretty good.

On the 12th of June 2000 I received the attached Notice of Incomplete Nonprovisional Application letter informing me that there were two items missing from the application. On the 13th of June 2000 I again telephoned the USPTO and spoke to a gentleman (I think his name was Mr Price) about the notice. I went through the documentation with him that I had sent and advised him that the return receipt had no indication of missing documents. He said that he would make some enquiries for me and that if I had not heard from him in a day or two that I should send copies of the required documents with an explanatory note and a copy of the return receipt to your department as the first course of action.

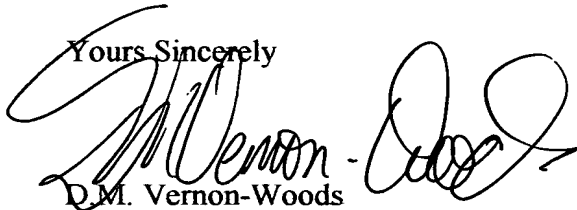
The problem I have is that if I am unable to obtain the original filing date which is shown on the return receipt as 03/21/00 number 09/531769, then my application time will have expired and the project will fail. Mr Price (?) advised me that before I go to the stage of filing a petition, I should first write to you directly explaining the situation. It is critical to my application that the original filing date should stand and if I have breached a protocol of the application format, I can only apologise. If there is anything that I can do, then I would greatly appreciate your help and advice.

My contact details are as follows:

Mr Don Vernon-Woods
2 McBryde Court
Para Hills West
South Australia, 5096
Ph: 0411415658
Ph/Fax 08 83494020
E-mail Dreamclean@primus.com.au

Your patients, understanding and help are greatly appreciated. In anticipation of hearing from you at your earliest convenience, I remain

Yours Sincerely



D.M. Vernon-Woods

Attached pages:

- 1) Notice of Incomplete Nonprovisional Application-----Part2
- 2)Copy (enlarged) return receipt
- 3)Copy annexure B--- item 57: Claim of monopoly (35 U.S.C. 112)
- 4)Copy annexure C--- drawings: 3 profiles (35 U.S.C. 113)

Total pages: 6 (including letter)

Overlooking the Glenelg foreshore
towards Adelaide skyline.

BA003

RETURN RECEIPT

DOCUMENTS AS FOLLOWS

PTO/SB/05

PTO/SB/01

ANNEXURE A

ANNEXURE B

ANNEXURE C

SPECIFICATION

PTO/SB/01

PTO/SB/09

PTO/SB/17

MONEY ORDER N^o 84-478139581 8

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TO D.M. Vernon - Woods

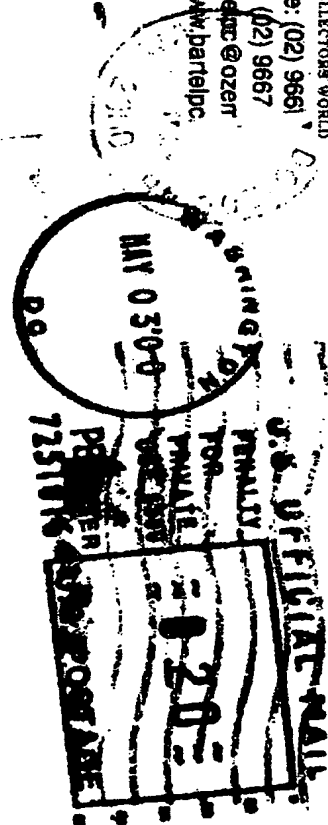
22 M'BYDE COURT

Park Hills West

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

AUSTRALIA

POSTCODE 5096



FORMALITIES LETTER



OC00000005140667

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Patent and Trademark OfficeAddress: COMMISSIONER OF PATENT AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231

APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING/RECEIPT DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER
09/531,769	03/21/2000	Donald Michael Vernon-Woods	-

Donald Michael Vernon-Woods
Para Hills West
2 McBryde Court
Adelaide, _ 5096
AUSTRALIA



Date Mailed: 05/25/2000

NOTICE OF INCOMPLETE NONPROVISIONAL APPLICATION

FILED UNDER 37 CFR 1.53(b)

A filing date has NOT been accorded to the above-identified application papers for the reason(s) indicated below.

All of the items noted below and a newly executed oath or declaration covering the items must be submitted within **TWO MONTHS** of the date of this Notice, unless otherwise indicated, or proceedings on the application will be terminated (37 CFR 1.53(e)).

The filing date will be the date of receipt of all items required below, unless otherwise indicated. Any assertions that the item(s) required below were submitted, or are not necessary for a filing date, must be by way of petition directed to the attention of the Office of Petitions accompanied by the \$130.00 petition fee (37 CFR 1.17(i)). If the petition states that the application is entitled to a filing date, a request for a refund of the petition fee may be included in the petition.

- The specification does not include at least one claim.
A complete specification including at least one claim as prescribed by 35 U.S.C. 112 is required.
- The application was deposited without drawings. 35 U.S.C. 113 (first sentence) requires a drawing "where necessary for the understanding of the subject matter sought to be patented." *Applicant should reconsider whether the drawings are necessary under 35 U.S.C. 113 (first sentence).*

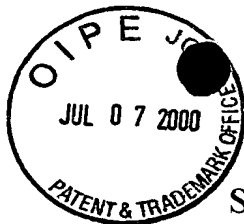
*A copy of this notice **MUST** be returned with the reply.*

J. T-6

Customer Service Center

Initial Patent Examination Division (703) 308-1202

PART 2 - COPY TO BE RETURNED WITH RESPONSE



ANNEXURE B
Spray Applicator Belt Hook

(12) AUSTRALIAN REGISTERED DESIGN

(11) AU-S-138254

(19) AU

(21) Application Number: 475/1999 **(22)** Date of filing application: 17 February 1999

(24) Date from which industrial property rights may have effect: 17 February 1999

(54) Article in respect of which the design is registered: Spray applicator belt hook

(51) International Design Classification : 02-07A

(71) Name(s) and Address(s) of Applicant(s):
Donald Michael Vernon-Woods
2 McBryde Court Para Hills West South Australia 5096 Australia

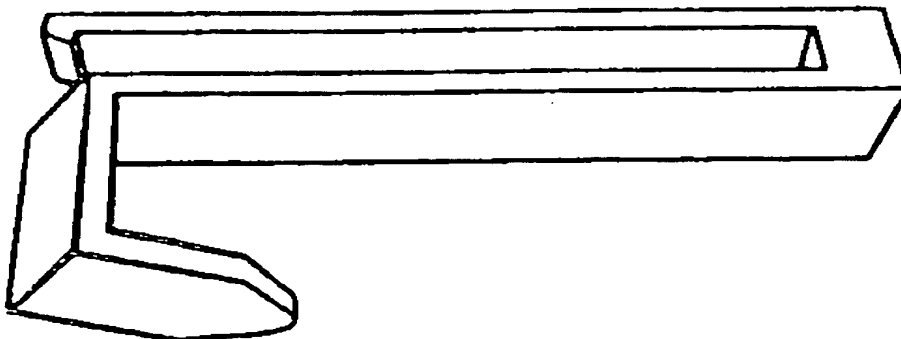
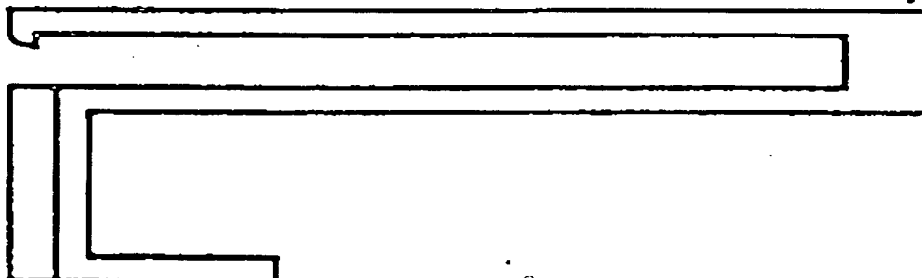
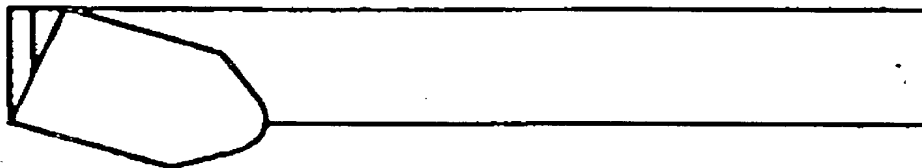
(72) Name(s) of Author(s) Donald Michael Vernon-Woods

(45) Registration Date: 17 August 1999

(56) Related Art Documents: Nil

(57) Statement of Monopoly: Monopoly is claimed in the features of shape or configuration of the spray applicator belt hook as illustrated in the representations.

Statement of Novelty: Nil



LEFT HAND MODEL

ANNEXURE C
Spray Applicator Belt Hook

